## Message Text

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45

**ACTION EA-13** 

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 DRC-01 /050 W

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R 250940Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7926

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

SECRETRANGOON 1078

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, PINS, TH, BM

SUBJECT: BURMESE ALLEGATIONS THAT AMERICANS TRAINED KAREN

DISSIDENTS

REF: BANGKOK 6293

- 1. DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE SERVICES INTELLIGENCE (COLONEL AUNG HTAY) IN RECENT CONVERSATION MENTIONED SEVERAL LOW LEVEL REPORTS IN FORM OF VILLAGER SIGHTINGS OF THREE "AMERICANS" WHO APPEARED TO BE IN ACTIVE COLLABORATION WITH KNUF TROOPS JUST BEFORE MYAWADI BATTLE. AUNG HTAY SAID REPORTS HAD BEEN MENTIONED TO KRIANGSAK DURING LATTER'S VISIT TO RANGOON.
- 2. AUNG HTAY SAID GUB ASSUMPTION IS THAT IF REPORT HAS
  ANY BASIS IN FACT THEN AMERICANS INVOLVED ARE PROBABLY
  PRIVATE CITIZENS, NOT OFFICIALS, AND WERE OPERATING
  WITHOUT USG SANCTION. AUNG HTAY SAID ON BASIS HIS OWN
  SERVICE AS MILITARY ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON HE IS AWARE
  THAT MOST MATURE AMERICAN MALES HAVE AT LEAST SOME MILITARY
  EXPERIENCE, AND THERE ARE IDEALISTIC PERSONS WHO WOULD
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BE WILLING TO PASS ON WHAT THEY KNOW TO GROUPS LIKE KNUF.

HE ADDED THERE WAS NO SUGGESTION OF OFFICIAL USG INVOLVE-MENT IN BURMESE STATEMENTS TO KRIANGSAK, AND HE KNOWS OF NO SUCH SUSPICIONS IN GUB LEADERSHIP CIRCLES.

3. NEVERTHELESS, WE AGREE WITH REFTEL'S EMPHASIS THAT GUB CONTINUES WATCHFUL AND INTERESTED IN ANY HINT OF U.S. INVOLVEMENT WITH DISSIDENT GROUPS. AUNG HTAY'S DISMISSAL OF THE "LOW LEVEL" REPORTS PROBABLY ACCURATELY REFLECTS VIEWS OF GUB LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS, BUT REPORTS OF THIS KIND OFTEN CIRCULATE IN LESS SOPHISTICATED BURMESE MILITARY AND POLITICAL CIRCLES WHICH ARE MORE READY TO ASSUME THE WORST ABOUT USG SUPPORT TO INSURGENTS.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MILITARY TRAINING, PARAMILITARY FORCES

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Subject: BURMESE ALLEGATIONS THAT AMERICANS TRAINED KAREN DISSIDENTS

TAGS: PINR, PINS, TH, BM

To: STATE

Type: TE

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